

Fairfax Baptist Church
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September 2011

We're on the web:
 A Grace Place
 www.fairfaxbaptist.com

The SPAN

Church Services & Bible Study:

Bible Study — Sundays at 9:30 am
 Worship Services — Sundays at 11:00 am
 Bible Study & His Kids — Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
 Bible Study — Thursdays at 10:00 am
 Church Office Hours — Mon-Fri, 10:00am-3:00pm

Pastor/Choir Director: Dr. Jim Hoffman, Th.D
Music Assistant: Charlotte Balis
Organist/Pianist: Dr. David Kosutic
Adult Education Coordinator: Dr. Dick Thompson
Youth Director: Joseph Mendez
Children's Coordinator: Jenifer Kerns
Administrative Assistant: Laura Jaumillot
Custodians: John and Joann Jenkins

If you no longer wish to receive this publication, please send this sheet to FBC at the address above, call the office, or send an email to fairfax-baptist@gmail.com.

September Nursery Schedule

	<u>Nursery Room</u>	<u>Toddler Room</u>
September 4	Cherie Pratte	Ruth Blevins, Haley Skeins
September 11	Pat Coleman	Kristina Barlow, Sara Bedwell
September 18	Elaine Fox	Vicky & Amanda Zehring
September 25	(vol. needed)	Ashley Dobbins (vol. needed)

Prayer & Praise List

Baughman, Charles & Ruby	Jones, Issac	Rodman, Eiko
Berkery, Frances	Kimball, Lew	Rodman, Cindy
Campbell, Louise	Lavinder, Irma	Rose, Anne
Conger, James & Diane	Lindsey, Frank	Shrader, Mary
Crosen, Peg	Malone, Art	Smith, Bob
Cutchin, John	McClure, Shonnon	Smith, Peggy
Davis, Ed	McRobie, Pauline	Smith, Sherry
Forsman, Wendell	Moyer, Bea	Stallings- Wood, Mandy
Gross, Phyllis	Mozingo, Susan	Toner, Gloria
Gurney, Iva	Pearia, Alicia	Trivett, James (Slim)
Harris, Stephanie	Petrovich, Corey	Woolfs, Darlene
Harris, Virgil	Pickeral, Thelma and her daughter	People Serving in the Armed Forces from Fairfax Baptist: Pierre Epeé, Emerson Davis, Matt DeWeese, Peter Knight, Mark Pearson, Matthew Reese and Sean Rodman.
Hatton, Donnie	Pratt, Clara	
Hyde, Elizabeth	Raymond, Linda	
Irvin, Odell	Repass, Betty	



Labor Day
 September 4th

Grandparents Day
 September 11th

Patriot Day
 September 11th

International Day of Peace
 September 22nd

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Pastor's Journal
 by Dr. Jim Hoffman, Th.D

This is my first journal entry since my dad made the "Great Escape". In C.S. Lewis' book, "A Grief Observed", he captures so well many of the honest feelings one has about grief. Lewis also provides gripping conversations with God. Part of the grief he presents, and with which I agree, is the knowledge that your relationship as human beings is over. You will never know that person again as you know them on this earth plane. And, as much as we believe that heaven is a better place than here, we do not know what relationships will be like. What if we will not know or have knowledge of each other there. He writes that if his wife would be happier, peaceful and completely at bliss, and the price was not knowing him, he would be more than willing to pay that price. I agree. In my dad's closing days, if God told me if I would move to another place and never make contact with my dad then he would completely heal my father and make him happy, I would have packed everything and vanished. He goes on to write about experiencing his wife's presence after her death. He noted that it was without emotion, but that did not prove to be a negative. It was not cold or indifferent. Lewis wrote that it felt vibrant, focused, peaceful, and solid. Lewis goes on to say he does believe in a knowing in our relationships in heaven but he did not know what that might mean. I think he was trying to say that our knowing will be much like the experience one has when a loved one's presence is experienced by another on this earth plane.

My one observation about grief is, I did not see coming the emotions I would have. Most of our emotions are based on what our mind is processing therefore we either feel good or bad depending on our thoughts and judgments about them being good or bad. Grief bypasses our minds. The movement of emotions comes directly from our hearts and the depth of our heart is a well without measure. It is not the mind that is the great unknown to me, it is our great eternal heart. And, the heart does not heal on earth. If not for the sufficiency of God's grace we would all be most

miserable. We do not get better, we get better at it by the grace of God.

I am praying for you Pop on your new journey. By the way, I miss you but you know that. I will be looking for you. Be sure to tell MamaCile that my pant legs lay on my shoes with a nice break on the cuff. (The back story is that my grandmother always would tell me, "Jim, your shoes and sox look like they are having a party and forgot to invite your pants".)

Your pastor, jim

Finance Committee
 by Jeanne Hogarth

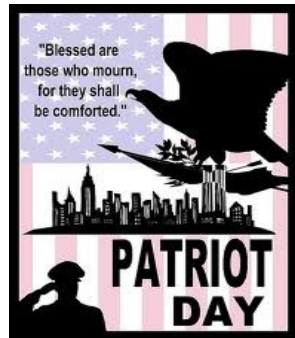
40 Weeks of Sharing

Back in June, we passed a budget that included income of \$51,200 from fund raising. Now that's a large number – for example:

- If we raised \$300 at a spaghetti dinner, we would have to have 170 spaghetti dinners – that's more than 3 a week!
- If we raised \$4,000 at a yard sale, we'd have to have a yard sale every month plus one more!
- If we had a bake sale every week, we'd have to sell \$980 worth of brownies and cookies each week — I don't think I can eat that much!

One way to tackle big jobs is to break them down into smaller pieces. Our Finance Committee has decided to do just that – to tackle this goal one week at a time. We've broken down that \$51,200 into \$1,000 a week. And we're breaking that \$1,000 into \$1.00 shares. We're asking you to invest in as many shares as you feel you can afford in addition to your regular giving. Some may be able to add \$50, \$100 or more to their regular weekly giving – others may only be able to add \$10 or \$5 a week to their offering.

(continued on page 3)



In the United States, **Patriot Day** occurs on September 11th of each year, designated in memory of the 2,977 killed in the September 11, 2001 attacks. This year is the 10th anniversary of that fateful day.

Update

Mildred Trainor (through her daughter Martha Hilton) sends her best and would like you to know she is doing well and would welcome contact from church members either by mail or phone. Contact the church office for more information.

Noteworthy News

By Charlotte Balis

It's that wonderful time of the year again! Chancel and Chapel Choir rehearsals are beginning! Please "tune in" to the enclosed flyers.

Thank you for the heartfelt response to our various genres of worship music during the month of August. What a joy to sing Christian music that spans the tastes of our congregation; music from the classical to the contemporary. A special thank you is extended to Wendy Knight for bringing her City of Fairfax Theatre Company members to sing for us on our "finale" Sunday. We now look forward to our fall worship services with its many eventful Sundays!

Women's Fellowship Circle

By Linda Davis

Summer is drawing to an end; but the Women's Fellowship Circle is just getting ready to begin its new session. Our first meeting will be on September 13th at 10:00 am. We will continue to meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September through June, at 10:00 am.

Our purpose is to pool our ideas and resources to better support mission work at a local, national and world wide level. As a group, we feel we can accomplish more than we can with each of us working on our own.

One morning a month is not asking a lot to make life happier for someone else; come join us and God will bless.

Ministry Conference September 24, 2011

**Church Discipleship Group Presents:
NorthStar's Annual Ministry Conference
Sept. 24th, 9:00 am—12:30 pm**

For: Adult Leaders, Youth Leaders, Children's Leaders, Preschool and Weekday Pre-school Leaders.

Where: First Baptist Church of Alexandria
2932 King Street Alexandria

For more information contact:
www.northstarchurchnetwork.org

September 17th Seminar

By Randy Butturini

Saturday Seminar on the Making of the King James Bible September 17, 9:00 am

This year is the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible, one of the most influential pieces of literature of the English language. Without the King James Bible, we wouldn't have the soaring poetry of Handel's Messiah, the Gettysburg Address, Milton's Paradise Lost, or the American negro spirituals.

But there were already English translations of the Bible before the King James Version. Why was this Bible written? What did the church and state hope to achieve with another English translation? What was James I up to when he authorized this translation?

How did the translators deal with the "hard places" in the Bible? Who was William Tyndale, and why were the authorities after him?

Are newer translations better, worse, or the same as the King James Version? What makes a translation better anyhow?

Join us for a seminar on Saturday, September 17th, at 9:00 am to hear about the politics, theology, radical Protestantism, and personalities that went into this special translation of the Bible.

**Don't be forced to wait
another 400 years for this opportunity!**

FBC Website Update

New on the Web

Check out our Fairfax Baptist Church website www.fairfaxbaptist.com for a new addition to our postings. FBC is blessed to have a wonderful preacher in Dr. Hoffman, and now we are able to share his teachings with those who, for one reason or another, are not able to join us on Sunday, or for those who would like to revisit a sermon. Click on the [Weekly Teachings](#) link on our home page and then choose the teaching you'd like to hear. You are in for a treat! (Thank you to Emily Jaumillot for teaching our webmaster how to upload the sermons to our website.)

Children's Corner



There was PandaMania and PandaMayhem during the week of August 1st-5th here at FBC, and a good time was had by all. All the children had big smiles on their faces and goodies in their bags. A huge thank you goes out to all who were involved and helped to make this a successful spiritual adventure for the kids.

Youth Group

By Joseph Mendez

**"Alive" Conference
Ocean City, Maryland
November 18-20, 2011**

The youth group is planning on taking middle school students to the conference "Alive" held in Ocean City, MD from Friday-Sunday, November 18-20. Registration is \$175. Please reserve your spot by turning in your permission slip and money by Sunday, October 16th. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the youth director, Joseph Mendez at (571) 540-0507 or josephmendezva@yahoo.com

Finance Committee

(continued)

On September 18 we will be asking you to commit – anonymously! – to sharing in our goal of raising \$1,000 more per week over the next 40 weeks. By sharing in these fund-raising shares, you won't have to eat spaghetti 3 times a week; you won't have to scramble to clean out your closets and cupboards monthly; and you won't have to eat a gazillion calories worth of brownies and cookies – but you will reap the dividends of faith and fellowship.



THE FARMER'S SON

There is an old, old story about a farmer in China. One year the weather was very good and his crops grew strong and high, and all his neighbors told him how lucky he was to have such a fine crop and he replied, "We'll see".

Then the day before he was going to start the harvest a herd of wild horses came running off the plains and trampled all his crops flat. His neighbors came around and said how unlucky he was to lose his fine crop. The farmer replied, "We'll see".

The next day the farmer's son went out with a length of rope and caught a wild stallion and three mares, and the neighbors came round to admire the horses and told the farmer how lucky he was. The farmer said, "We'll see".

In the morning the farmer's son started to break in the horses and no sooner had he mounted the stallion than it threw him, and as he fell on the ground he broke his leg. The neighbors carried him indoors and commiserated with the farmer, saying how unlucky he was that his only son was so badly injured. The farmer said, "We'll see".

The next day the Emperor's army came to the village on the way to fight a great battle and all the able-bodied young men were press-ganged into the army. But the farmer's son was not taken because of his broken leg. All his neighbors told the farmer how lucky he was that his son had been saved from the army and the farmer said, "We'll see".

Please Note!

As announced earlier, the FBC yard sale originally schedule for October 2011, has been **cancelled**. No donations of yard sale items should be left at the Church. Thank you.

Shepherd's Center Lunch N' Life...

Thursday
Sept. 15, 2011
12-2 PM

Fairfax Presbyterian
Church

Program:
Harmony Heritage
Singers

**Call for reservations
by Sept. 8th**
(703) 620-0161
Cost: \$8.00